

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an attachment;  
opening the attachment to the e-mail; and  
writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer.

2. A method as in claim 1,  
wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and  
wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

3. A method as in claim 1,  
wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

4. A method as in claim 3, further comprising the steps of:  
determining an operating system type for the computer; and  
generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

5. A method as in claim 4,  
wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

6. A method as in claim 5,  
wherein the location settings specify internet settings.



1 14. A computer readable storage medium, comprising:  
2 computer readable program code embodied on said computer readable storage medium,  
3 said computer readable program code for programming a computer to perform a method for a  
4 updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:  
5 receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an  
6 attachment;  
7 opening the attachment to the e-mail; and  
8 writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment  
9 into the configuration specification of the computer.

1 15. A computer readable storage medium as in claim 14,  
2 wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the  
3 configuration specification; and  
4 wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

1 16. A computer readable storage medium as in claim 14,  
2 wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of  
3 operating systems.

1 17. A computer readable storage medium as claim 16, the method further comprising the  
2 steps of:  
3 determining an operating system type for the computer; and  
4 generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating  
5 system type for the computer.

1 18. A computer readable storage medium as in claim 19,  
2 wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates  
3 the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the  
4 computer.



1 26. A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify  
2 dialing settings or local area network settings.

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